Joint venture to manufacture ICF design fabricated coaches

3148. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that a proposal to set up a joint venture company with Steel Industries Kerala Ltd., Alleppey, a public sector undertaking of the Government of Kerala, to manufacture ICF design fabricated bogies for passenger coaches was under consideration of Government; and

(b) if so, the details and present status of the project proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action is being taken to form a Joint Venture Company under companies' Act 1956, between Ministry of Railways (MoR) and Government of Kerala (GoK) for manufacture of Railway coach and wagon components by utilizing the assets of Steel Industries Kerala Limited (SILK) and its subsidiary, M/s Autokast.

Survey of Nanjancode to Nilambur rail route

3149. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the survey for the construction of Nanjancode of Karnataka to Nilambur of Kerala railway route *via* Sultan Bathery in Wayanad at Gudalloor Road of Tamil Nadu is in progress; and

(b) if so, when the survey was started, by when it is proposed to be completed, and the budgetary allocation made in the budgets since the survey was started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) An updating survey for Nanjangud-Nilambur *via* Sultan Bathery and Gudallur was taken up and completed during 2007-08 and its report further updated in February, 2009. An outlay of Rs. 12.7 lakh has been provided for this survey so far.

Rail connectivity to ports

3150. SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:
SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has identified nine ports in the country under the National Maritime Development Programme for the development of coastal shipping and whether Azhikkal and Vizhingam ports in Kerala are included in these nine ports; and

(b) if so, what action has been taken to provide rail connectivity to these ports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Peninsular railway zone for Kerala

3151. SHRI K.E. ISMAIL:
SHRI M.P. ACHUTHAN:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Kerala has been demanding a peninsular railway zone for Kerala considering the needs and geographical sprawl of Kerala being quite different from the neighbouring States like Tamil Nadu and Karnataka; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Some States including Kerala have requested for separate zone. As of now, no decision to form a new zone has been taken.

Electricity consumption by Railways

3152. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANJAY RAUT:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what has been the annual electricity consumption for last five years;

(b) what has been the annual electricity bill of the railways during that period;

(c) at what rate the Railways have been purchasing the electricity for operations and non-operational purposes;

(d) what are the sources of power supply of Railways; and

(e) whether the Railways purchase power at uniform price from all the suppliers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI E. AHAMMED): (a) The Annual electricity consumption of Indian Railways for operational (Traction) and non operational (Non traction) purpose for the last five years are as under:—

(Electricity consumption in million Kwh)

Type	Year				
	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Operational purpose (Traction)	9477	10132	10398	11035	11685
Non Operational purpose (Non Traction)	2221	2274	2307	2322	2411
TOTAL:	11698	12406	12705	13357	14096